

Battle Creek Historic District Commission

Staff Report

Meeting: March 9, 2015

To:

Historic District Commission

From:

Glenn Perian, Senior Planner

Date:

March 3, 2015

Subject: The petition filed by James Donahue/Battle Creek Books for the issuance of a Determination of Appropriateness to install a sign at 51 W. Michigan Avenue that will comply with zoning and historic district commission requirements.

Site:

The property is located in the Local Central Business District Historic District.



Summary of Request

The proposed project includes the installation of an oval projection sign, 12 sq. ft. in area to advertise a new business that meets zoning and HDC approval requirements for the issuance of a Certicate of Approval at property located at 51 W. Michigan Avenue. The Applicant has provided a rendering of what the proposed sign looks like and it is included in your packet. The sign is proposed to be located above the awning over the door and the business owner is expected to be at the meeting to answer any questions you may have related to the project. As a side note, a previously approved awning (2010) is part of the project but does not require any additional approvals from the HDC.

Public Notice Requirements:

Public notice has occurred as outlined under MCL Section 399.205 Section 5 (6)..."the business that the commission may perform shall be conducted at a public meeting of the commission held in compliance with the open meetings act, Act No. 267 of the Public Acts of 1976, as amended, being sections 15.261 of 15.275 of the Michigan Compiled Laws. Public notice of the time, date, and place of the meeting shall be given in the manner required by Act No. 267 of the Public Acts of 1976, as amended.

Applicable HDC Guidelines and Analysis for a Certificate of Appropriateness to install a business identification projection sign at the property located at 51 W. Michigan Avenue.

This property is reviewed in accordance with City of Battle Creek Building and Housing Code Chapter 1470 "Historic Preservation", as amended, the Michigan's Local Historic Districts Act, as amended, and the criteria for the National Register of Historic Places as outlined in the Secretary of the Interior's Standards and Guidelines.

Specifically, the Commission shall follow Section 1470.09, as:

- (b) The Commission shall also consider all of the following:
 - (1) The historic or architectural value and significance of the resource and its relationship to the historic value of the surrounding area.
 - (2) The relationship of any architectural features of the resource to the rest of the resource and the surrounding area.
 - (3) The general compatibility of the design, arrangement, texture, and materials proposed to be used.
 - (4) Other factors, such as aesthetic value that the Commission finds relevant.
 - (c) The Historic District Commission shall review and act upon only exterior features of a resource and shall not review and act upon interior arrangements...

And

1470.17 PRESERVATION OF HISTORIC FEATURES.

(a) Every reasonable effort shall be made to provide a compatible use for a resource which requires minimal alteration of the building, structure or site and its environment, or to use the resource for its originally intended purpose. This project includes the installation of a projection sign to the building at 51 W. Michigan Avenue. Staff believes that the sign is acceptable for approval and for the Commission to issue a Certificate of Appropriateness for the project.

- (b) The distinguishing original qualities or character of a resource and its environment shall not be destroyed. The removal or alteration of any historic material or distinctive architectural features shall be avoided when possible. The proposed work to the building is to add a projection sign to the building. Staff does not believe any historic or distinctive architectural features will be destroyed in the process. Furthermore, the sign could be removed in the future or changed for another business.
- (c) All resources shall be recognized as products of their own time.

 Alterations that have no historic basis and which seek to create an earlier appearance shall be discouraged. No materials or site work are being proposed that will create an earlier appearance and an identification sign is desired for customers to easily locate the business.
- (d) Changes which may have taken place in the course of time are evidence of the history and development of a resource and its environment. These changes may have acquired significance in their own right, and this significance shall be recognized and respected. Staff does not think that this requirement applies to this project.
 - (e) Distinctive stylistic features or examples of skilled craftsmanship which characterize a resource shall be treated with sensitivity. Staff does not believe this requirement applies to this project.
- (f) Deteriorated architectural features shall be repaired rather than replaced wherever possible. In the event replacement is necessary, the new material should match the material being replaced in composition, design, color, texture and other visual qualities. Repair or replacement of missing architectural features should be based on accurate duplications of features, substantiated by historic, physical or pictorial evidence rather than on conjectural designs or the availability of different architectural elements from other resources. This element does not apply to this project.
 - (g) The surface cleaning of resources shall be undertaken with the gentlest means possible. Sandblasting and other cleaning methods that will damage the historic materials shall not be undertaken. This element does not apply to this project.
- (h) Every reasonable effort shall be made to protect and preserve archaeological resources affected by or adjacent to any project. Staff does not think this applies to this project.
 - (i) Contemporary design for alterations and additions to existing resources shall not be discouraged when such alterations and

additions do not destroy significant historic, architectural or cultural material and when such design is compatible with the size, scale, color, material and character of the property, neighborhood or environment. Staff believes that the proposed work will meet this requirement for the project.

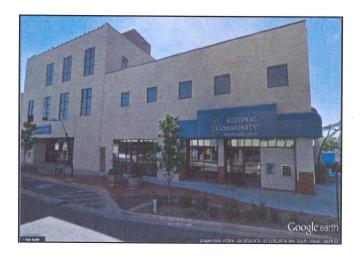
(j) Whenever possible, new additions or alterations to resources shall be done in such a manner that if such additions or alterations were to be removed in the future, the essential form and integrity of the resource would not be unimpaired. This requirement does not apply to this project.

(Ord. 14-97. Passed 8-5-97.)

Recommendation:

The work proposed is for the purposes of identifying a business in the local central business district. The project is a necessity for the business and staff believes the proposed work complies with standards outlined in Chapter 1470 and should be approved. As contained herein, staff is not aware of any issues that the Commission might find in conflict with Chapter 1470 "Historic Preservation", the Michigan Local Historic Districts Act or the Secretary of the Interior's Standards and Guidelines.

Therefore, planning staff recommends approval of a certificate of appropriateness for the proposed work outlined in the plan submitted to install the proposed signage at 51 W. Michigan Avenue, as the request meets the standards outlined in Chapter 1470.09 "Review of Applications", Chapter 1470.17 "Preservation of Historic Features" and the Secretary of the Interior's Standards and Guidelines, as outlined in the staff report.





City of Battle Creek

Department of Planning and Community Development 10 N. Division Street, Ste. 117 • Battle Creek, Michigan 49014

Phone: (269) 966-3320 • www.battlecreekmi.gov

CITY OF BATTLE CREEK

HISTORIC DISTRICT COMMISSION

Application for (check all that applies)

Certificate of Appropriateness (for repairs or rehab projects)

Notice to Proceed (for demolition requests)

Date Received: 2-/9-/5 APPLICANT** James Donahue Battle Creek Books NAME: ADDRESS: SI Michigan Ave. W Suite A Battle Creek My PHONE: 269-339-1877 FAX: 269-441-1122 EMAIL: battle creek books @ gmail. com OWNER (if different from applicant) NAME: KCFCU Proporties LLC

ADDRESS: P.O. B.x 140 Battle Creek MI 49016

PHONE: (269) 968-9251

EMAIL: Mogrin @ hellogg cfcu. org Michael J J Ogrin **If the applicant is not the property owner, a letter signed by the owner agreeing to the application to Historic District Commission must be included with the application. SUBMITTAL REQUIREMENTS/EXISTING CONDITIONS Address(es) of property for which the request is being sought: 31 Michigan Ave. W. Sorte A Current use of the property: Books fore (new) tenent of KCFCU List existing structures on the property and the approximate age of each. Please list all activities/proposed work for the property area and how the proposed work relates to the building as a whole. REQUESTING retail bookstore 1) books/new used

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Proposed front door awning for **BATTLE CREEK BOOKS**51 Michigan Ave. W. Suite A, Battle Creek, MI 49017



Beauty Mark New Yorker Low Eave Window / Entry Awning - 6 Feet

This stylishly simple Beauty Mark awning definitely has New Yorker written all over it! This 6 ft. awning can be used for both commercial and residential applications, and is easy to assemble and install in as little as 1 hour. Awnings not only protect you from harmful UV rays-they block up to 70 percent of heat uptake on west-facing windows and doors, and they protect furniture, floors, and draperies from fading from too much sun. These awnings come in 35 colorful solids and stripes to choose from and feature a 5 year limited warranty.

This model has a 36" projection. Color: Burgundy. Valance: Solid

- · For Windows or Entries.
- · Residential & Commercial Applications.

Benefits

- Beauty & Function in one product
- Blocks up to 70% of heat uptake on west facing windows and doors.
- · Protects furniture, floors and draperies from fading
- · Protects skin from harmful UV rays.
- 5-year limited warranty.

Uses & Ideas

- Over windows
- Entry doors
- · As an indoor window treatment
- With signage for a business entry (click for details)

Size & Function

- Outset width 4.5" (width is 2.25" beyond casement, each side)
- Stationary awning (not retractable)

Assembly & Installation

- Comes partially assembled & delivered to your door.
- Easy to assemble & install in about 1 hour (requires 1 installer)
- · Comes with: Wall brackets, stainless steel hardware
- Minimum mounting height from ground/deck = 76 in.
- Minimum mounting clearance above window/door = 18 in.
- Required Tools: High speed drill/adjustable wrench/phillips & hex drivers/level/ladder/tape measure/chalk line/hammer
- Due to the wide variety of building surfaces, Awntech does not supply the hardware to install your awning on the wall. You will need to purchase installation hardware at your local hardware store. The manual (download below) will advise you on different surface applications.

Fabrication

- Fabric: Beauty-Mark® Long Life Designer Outdoor Acrylic Fabrics.
- · Resistant to fading, moisture, mildew & soil.
- Fabric Choices: Approximately 35 designer solids & stripes (see color chart)
- Frame: Structural aluminum tubing (commercial strength)
- Stitching: Beauty-Mark SuperStrength monofilament thread (will not rot or discolor)

Testing

- Tested to withstand Level 3 hurricane winds (125mph)
- · Engineered to withstand heavy snow loads
- The Awning Support System meets or exceeds all Uniform Building Code

requirements Manufacturer: Awntech

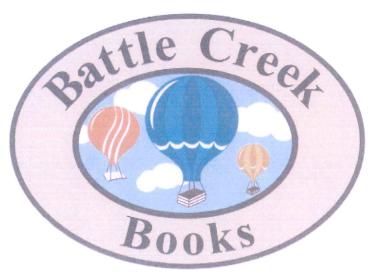
Awntech Part Number: EN23-6

eCanopy Item Number: AWT-EN23-6

UPC: 731478661980

Similar image of what *Battle Creek Books*Oval, perpendicular sign might look like





Interestingly, we had never seen the sample image before designing our own!

NOTE: Mitchell's Book Corner is a full service, independent book store on

HISTORIC Nantucket Island, MA

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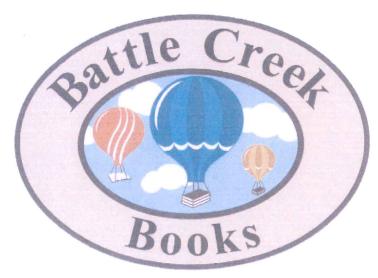
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SIGN PERMIT APPLICATION

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Similar image of what *Battle Creek Books*Oval, perpendicular sign might look like

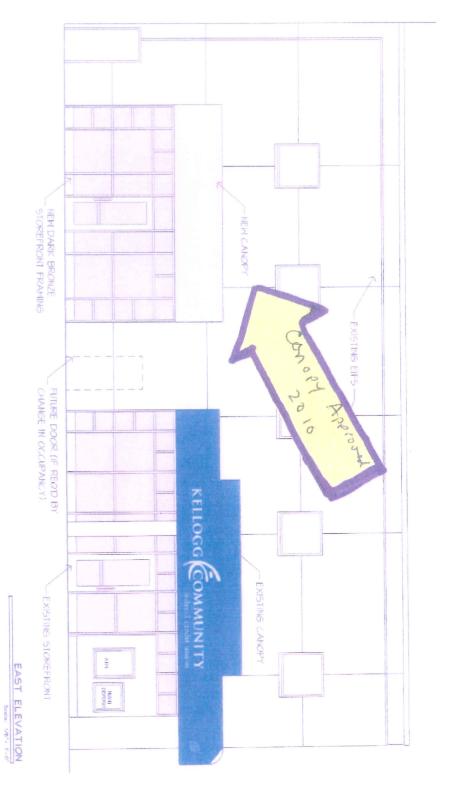




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NOTE: Mitchell's Book Corner is a full service, independent book store on

HISTORIC Nantucket Island, MA



PAGE NO: ASK-1	PROPOSED ELEVATION	REF. SHEET N	DATE: 07/18/12		
SCALE: 1/8" = 1'-0"	JOB NAME: Kellogg	Community	Federal	Credit	Union
FILE NAME 1209 A200.DWG	JOB NUMBER: 1209	BATTLE	CREEK, MI		



CERTIFICATE OF APPROPRIATENESS

51 W MICHIGAN AVE

Petition submitted by Sign Art Inc., Mr. Gerry Tillmann, requesting to remove existing 32 ft. awnings on each elevation and install new awnings that include signage for Kellogg Community Federal Credit Union; add two smaller awnings for future additional new tenant spaces; also store front update regarding door openings for new tenants for property located at 51 W MICHIGAN AVE.

Sign Art Inc. Attn: Mr. Gerry Tillmann 5757 E. Cork Street Kalamazoo, MI 49048 Kellogg Community Federal Credit Union 41 Second Street Battle Creek, MI 49017-6286

On November 8, 2010, the Historic District Commission of the City of Battle Creek reviewed the application submitted for the above noted property.

The application for the following work being done: Removal of existing 32 ft. awning on each elevation and installation of new awnings that include signage for Kellogg Community Federal Credit Union in addition to adding two smaller awnings for future new tenants; also to include store front update regarding door openings for new tenants, as stated for property located at 51 W MICHIGAN AVE has been APPROVED by the Historic District Commission as submitted with the stipulation that it meets City Code.

If you have any questions, please feel free to contact Glenn Perian at 966-3320.

Sincerely,

HISTORIC DISTRICT COMMISSION OF THE CITY OF BATTLE CREEK

By Direction of the Chairperson

CC. Building Inspections lap